

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the metal or metal compound included in the cover layer includes a titanium-nickel alloy.
2. (currently amended) A stent having a metallic, at least partially radiolucent carrier structure comprising a cut out metal tube including legs defining a mesh, and having at least one marker element welded to at least one leg, the marker element including a comparatively radiopaque material filling and completely enclosed by a cover layer of a metal or metal compound including material other than the comparatively radiopaque material, and together the comparatively radiopaque material and the cover layer form a core filled wire.
3. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the carrier structure is a self-expanding carrier structure.
4. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 3, wherein the carrier structure includes a shape memory metal which changes its shape at a change temperature, wherein the stent is of such a design configuration that the stent retains a compressed condition below the change temperature and assumes an expanded condition above the change temperature.
5. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the cover layer contains silicon carbide (SiC).

6. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the carrier structure is formed from the metal or the metal compound which the cover layer includes and wherein the marker element is attached to the carrier structure at the cover layer.

7-8 (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the marker element is attached to the carrier structure in a region of a longitudinal end of the stent.

10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the metal forming the carrier structure is at least partially a titanium nickel alloy.

12. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the comparatively radiopaque material contains gold, platinum or palladium.

13-19 (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) A method of treating a patient, the method comprising implanting a self-expanding stent into the patient, wherein the stent comprises a metallic, at least partially radio translucent carrier structure comprising a cut out metal tube at least partially of titanium-nickel alloy including legs defining a mesh and at least one marker element welded to at least one leg, and wherein the at least one marker element includes comparatively radiopaque material completely enclosed by a cover layer of a metal or metal compound material other than the radiopaque material and including the titanium-nickel alloy and together the comparatively radiopaque material and the cover layer form a core filled wire.
21. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the carrier structure includes at least one aperture produced by cutting out at least one of the legs, and wherein the at least one marker element is welded in the at least one aperture.
22. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein a plurality of the legs form at least one leg ring.
23. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 22, wherein the at least one leg to which the at least one marker element is welded is a member of the plurality of the legs forming the at least one leg ring.
24. (currently amended) A stent as set forth in claim [[23]] 22, wherein the at least one marker element forms an end portion.